

# THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

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*"I believe with all my heart that the mission of the Church is to carry the Gospel of salvation to the children of men for their benefit, not only here but in the eternities to come. This is a responsibility laid upon our shoulders by our Eternal Father."*—  
SAMUEL O. BENNION.

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## THE M. I. A. SLOGAN FOR 1933-34

ELDER RICHARD R. LYMAN

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

INSPIRED by our love for the Gospel and for its teachings, inspired by its ennobling and refining influences, we have come together this morning in this great M. I. A. conference from north, south, east, west, from every part of this great country and from adjacent countries, to worship God, to stimulate one another in our righteous, unselfish M. I. A. endeavours. We have all come filled with an ambition, an earnest determination, to struggle with our might to develop, to the highest degree, the gifts of God which are within us. All of these exalting and uplifting efforts are in line with the slogan the General Boards have proposed for the season 1933-34:

Inspired by the refining influences of "Mormonism" we will develop the gifts within us.

For its members, the ideal of the Church of Jesus Christ, as stated by the Master Himself, is:

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

In an effort to help its people to approach, to the highest possible degree, this exalted, this perfect ideal, the Church holds up standards, it provides opportunities, and it gives effective training for a well-rounded life including not only spiritual, but mental and physical development.

Having come together in a worshiping capacity, we necessarily are more or less actuated by a spirit of repentance, by sorrow in our hearts for our shortcomings. Let us, leaders of young folks here assembled, examine our own lives, our works, our actions, our individual accomplishments, and compare these with the

lofty ideals, the exalted standards which are set up for us by the Church. To those who are trained in our religious activities, Church ideals never cease to be ideals, Church standards never cease to be a strong and powerful pull, tending to bring the wayward back into that straight, that narrow path that leads to joy, honour and salvation eternal in the Great Beyond. The power of God is the greatest power that can come into human hearts and human lives. This matchless power is brought about by a prayerful life of righteous living. However far we may fall short of the ideal, those whose hearts are once touched by that divine light which shines from heaven, seldom cease to struggle to be better and to be stronger, however much they fail, however far they wander from the path of rectitude.

First, let us consider some of the spiritual uplifts the Church offers.

Our spirituality is stirred and our faith strengthened by the satisfying conviction that we existed before we came to dwell on earth, and that there is life beyond the grave. The importance, yes, the joy, and happiness, and glory of life here on earth, are greatly enhanced by the belief, by the satisfying conviction that our souls are immortal. Glorious indeed is our belief in the everlasting union of husbands and wives, and of parents and children. We not only believe in marriage, but also that family relationships are not for time only, but for eternity as well.

If, in the Church, there were but one teaching, one practice, and that our temple marriages, that is our temple marriage ceremonies in which solemn pledges are made that men, as well as women, will walk without the slightest deviation from the path of virtue; and if all our marriage ceremonies were performed in the temple; and if our people, without exception, would live in accordance with covenants therein made, we would produce a generation of matchless power. I make this bold statement because no nation, nor people in all the history of the world has failed except for one single cause, and that cause immorality.

#### YOUTH ARE TAUGHT TO SHUN EVIL

WE are trying so to teach and so to train our young folks that they will avoid all and every appearance of evil; that they will not indulge in improper familiarities; that they will have clean minds, thoughts and ambitions; that they will be genuinely pure in heart; that they will not indulge in the slightest unholy touch. The doctrine of the Church, its high ideals in this regard, and the exalted Christian teachings in this particular, are clearly and forcefully stated by the Master to this effect: "He that even looketh with impurity of thought hath already in his heart committed one of the two greatest sins." Match that doctrine and practice if you can for sublimity and perfection.

Courageously and faithfully, Latter-day Saints are bearing and bringing up children to whom, both by example and precept, the exalted standards of the Church are taught. Thus, we are doing our important part in that great divine plan in accordance with which human beings are born, taught, trained and educated here on earth in a continuous line of progression.

Upon the heads of Latter-day Saints, those having authority

have placed their hands, and with their hands thus placed and with authority have said: "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." The enjoyment of this great blessing, given by divine authority, awakens in human hearts higher ambitions and more ardent desires to live in accordance with the exalted standards of the Church. So living actually makes people different. This explains too, perhaps, why so many ask, "Why is it you 'Mormon' people are different; why is it you look different from the rest of us?" The "Mormon" people look different because they are different. It can be stated with mathematical certainty that any people who will live strictly in accordance with the high ideals of the Church, will not only become a different, but a mighty and powerful race.

This spiritual change or transformation referred to is that spoken of by the Saviour Himself when He said, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Yes, He added, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." It is that Spirit, it is the unceasing uplift, it is the power of God, it is the regular, earnest daily appeal to Divine Providence through the medium of prayer that makes people different. It makes them stronger, it makes them better, it makes them more God-like, it prepares them for living throughout eternity in the kingdom of our Father. Having thus been "born again," enjoying richly the inspiration and power of the Spirit makes human beings more or less immune to wrong-doing, as vaccination makes them immune to smallpox, or inoculation makes them immune to typhoid fever.

The spirituality in man, that something that comes from being born again "of the spirit," is increased by faith in God and by obedience to His laws and His teachings, by a study of the scriptures, by remembering the Sabbath day to keep it holy, by attendance at Sacrament meetings, by living pure lives, those that are clean in act and thought, by repeated appeals to Divine Providence for guidance and help, by individual testimonies of the divinity of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, by the testimonies that burn in the souls of Latter-day Saints concerning the divinity of the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and by our ever-increasing struggle to practise loyal adherence to Latter-day Saint ideals. Thus I have named for you some of the teachings and practices of the Church which awaken, inspire and perpetuate spirituality in human hearts.

#### PRACTICAL RELIGION PROMOTES A NORMAL LIFE

Secondly, let us consider some of the teachings in practical everyday religion with which the Church and its organizations deal and which help to promote normal life and physical and mental health.

An uplift comes, ideals and ambitions are kept exalted by the practice of asking the blessing on the food, and of participating with regularity in daily family prayers. Our Church members are expected, also with regularity, to offer personal prayers in secret. Such practices enable us, in the language of the ancient prophet, to "walk in the light of the Lord." Even one as wise and great as Benjamin Franklin realized the importance of

placing trust in Divine Providence. In the constitutional convention he said: "I have lived, sir, a long time; and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men." In the dark days of the Civil War, Lincoln said the great trouble with our nation was, "We have forgotten God." The Church is struggling to have its people remember Him.

We aim to live in accordance with the commandment: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." (Exodus 20: 8.) While with many, Sunday is the popular day for attending theatres, moving picture entertainments or other places of amusement, the standard of the Church disapproves this conduct. It urges the people to live a real Christian Sabbath, refusing to attend theatres, moving picture shows or other places of amusement on the Lord's day.

We believe in the doctrine of fasting. It is a practice good for the health of human beings, and it is the Lord's method of requiring those who have, to give to those who have not. If people generally would fast once each month, as is the teaching of our Church, and would contribute to the fund for the needy the amount thus saved, such a fund would go far toward satisfying the needs of the unfortunate for food.

#### THE LAW OF TITHING

By practising the law of tithing, funds are secured for building temples, for providing education in religion for the people, for assisting in preaching the Gospel to all the people in all the world, for conducting the general affairs and business of the Church, etc. Thus, all faithful saints contribute one-tenth of their income for the advancement of our Father's kingdom. Practising the law of tithing is but teaching or practising that great fundamental Christian principle, that important lesson of the Master, namely, that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Partaking of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper weekly and worthily is another requirement or practice of faithful members of the Church of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament meeting, the faithful have an opportunity of coming into close communion with the Spirit and power of Almighty God. It is during these moments of intense worship that all silent prayers are offered, that sins are forgiven, that new and unbreakable resolutions are formed which keep people striving on successfully to walk in that straight and narrow way that leads into the presence of our Father.

Work in our auxiliary organizations and in other Church activities keeps people striving and struggling on to make of their lives the greatest possible successes. The missionary system of the Church, instituted under the direction of the Prophet Joseph, certainly bears evidences of being a divine institution. This activity brings young men and young women, during what is perhaps the most critical age of their lives, into close contact with the perfect life and teachings and labours of Jesus, the Son of God.

Those who go into the mission field do so at their own expense, thus practising in another way that important Christian doctrine that it is more blessed to give than it is to receive. The whole



time of those in the mission field is devoted to a study of the scriptures. The missionaries not only acquire a knowledge of the Gospel, but they get that knowledge well grounded by actual practice, because they go from house to house, month after month and year after year, teaching these important Gospel truths and practices to all whom they can induce to listen. Thus, in their lives and into their souls is grounded, in the days of their youth, those great and fundamental principles which have such a tremendous uplift in the lives of human beings.

To mention all the standards and practices of the Church and of our auxiliary organizations would take more time than is at my command.

Our weekly home evening adds greatly to the joy and success of home life; lessons in thrift and economy tend to make our "Mormon" communities more successful than they would be otherwise; service to God and country are encouraged; we stand opposed to the use and sale of tobacco; we give our hearty support to the law, to the people who live it, and to the officers who enforce it; we struggle to enrich the lives of our people through constructive use of leisure, and through service to our fellowmen.

We have placed emphasis upon the teaching that physical, mental and spiritual growth may be advanced through observance of the Word of Wisdom.

#### SCHOLASTIC TRAINING IN THE CHURCH

Thirdly, let us consider some of the scholastic teachings, the mental training offered by the Church and its organizations. One of our mottoes, as expressed in the words given to us by the Prophet Joseph Smith is, "The Glory of God is Intelligence." Naturally, following leadership with such a banner, the Church and its organizations are striving constantly to gain knowledge and to develop understanding. To our Church workers, an educational training is given which, literally, extends from the cradle to the grave. History and literature, health and science, art, recreation, music—the Church offers opportunity for training in these and many other lines. In fact, every truth and all knowledge which make people better and happier, may appropriately be made a part of the training and education given to the people by the Church and its many organizations. Our M. I. A. programme is based upon those universal interests of people which are called urges. The aim of our Mutuals is to build a structure of culture and joy. Our programme is made broad enough, we believe, so that in it will be found a something that will satisfy every urge that comes into human hearts. The seven urges to which we have directed special attention are the social, the dramatic, the rhythmic, the linguistic, the environmental, the constructive and the physical urges. In practically all our M. I. A. recreational activities, one or more of these fundamental interests will be found. The aim of those who prepare our M. I. A. programme is to provide a something in the form of an urge with which any human heart or any human life can be touched and influenced for good.

The group of educators and scholars composing the two M. I. A. general boards have for many years recommended, each season, a reading course composed of books on biography, history,

adventure, science, etc., the reading of which, with studious care, would make the reader a real scholar. Those who have applied themselves to the courses of study and reading offered, have received an education that will compare favourably with the training many colleges offer.

#### THE CHURCH URGES AND SUPPORTS EDUCATION

To schools we send our children and to these institutions we give whole-hearted support. Since the Church teaches that the glory of God is intelligence and that men are saved no faster than they gain knowledge, to be true to our teachings we must and we do accept all truth of every kind, from whatever source it comes. We accept gladly the scholastic training, the building up of intellects and knowledge to be had in our school system which we support liberally and point to with pride.

An examination of the twenty-four slogans adopted by the Mutuals during the last twenty-four years will indicate the extent and depth of education these organizations offer. These slogans, our motto, and the whole of the doctrines of the Church indicate that we have, in the Mutuals and in the Church, only those teachings that will make people happier and make people better. We are members of the Church of Jesus Christ, a Church whose teachings include all truth. Our aim is not to quarrel with those who belong to other denominations, but to teach the truth as we have it taught in the holy scriptures and as it has been revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith and other modern prophets.

Inspired by these, a few of the teachings of the Church, and by the innumerable other refining influences of "Mormonism," let us each to himself make this solemn pledge: "God helping me, I will do my best to develop the gifts within me. If I have been blessed with two talents I will do my best with these two talents to make two talents more." If, perchance, some of us have been blessed with three, and some, perhaps, have been richly endowed with five talents, let us then say, "Inspired by the refining influences of 'Mormonism,' I will do my best to develop the gifts within me, and with these five talents make five talents more. God helping me, I will do my best so to develop the gifts within me, that when my work is finished I may hear these glorious words, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things.'" (Matt. 25: 21.) These are the aims, these are the ideals of the workers of the Church. We are struggling to be perfect even as our Father in heaven is perfect. "Thus on to eternal perfection, the honest and faithful will go."—(Address delivered at the Annual June M. I. A. Conference in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., June 9th, 1933.)

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THANK God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance and self-control, diligence and strength of will, cheerfulness and content, and a hundred virtues which the idle never know.—CHARLES KINGSLEY.

## THE HOLY GHOST

ELDER MELVIN J. BALLARD

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

WHEN Jesus Christ was about to leave His disciples, He, possessed of all things, the Creator of all things, thought upon a gift that would be of great value unto them. Rather than choose, however, a material gift, though He might have done it, he selected a spiritual gift, the gift of the Holy Ghost.

As we witness the operation of that power upon His disciples, we are convinced that He was right. From weak, timid men before the reception of this gift, men who were afraid to testify of Him—some deserted Him, others denied that they knew Him—now, alone, and yet with this other Comforter that He said He would provide for them, unafraid they declared Jesus Christ and Him crucified, although they were warned that it might cost them their lives. Cheerfully each of them went to his death, rejoicing in bearing this witness. And they were touched by that marvelous power that enabled them to grasp and comprehend His teachings, for He said it would bring an understanding to them of the things He had said, it would show them things to come, it would detect error and guide them into all truth. They were touched by that power and became men of wisdom, so that their words have been quoted and will be, to the end of time. They became giants in the earth; a million pounds to each one of them would not have resulted in lifting them to the high station they occupied as leaders among men.

## RESTORATION OF THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

In the restoration of the everlasting Gospel in this age, there has been committed again to men this choice gift. What would you give to-morrow to go into the presence of the Master Himself and submit your problems and receive from Him answers and guidance from one who knows all things? And yet it is the privilege of those who have the Holy Ghost to receive from the third personage in the Godhead guidance in all things.

Jesus Christ never referred to the Holy Ghost as *it*, but always as *he*. The Latter-day Saints declare that He is a personage—as real a personage as the Father and the Son, except that He does not possess a physical, tangible body, and yet a reality. He is as much a reality as Jesus Christ was before His birth in mortality. Why the Holy Ghost has not a material body like the Father or Son, we do not know, but undoubtedly He can fill His mission to better advantage just as He is. That essence which comes out from Him may assume the form of a dove, or like cloven tongues of fire may appear, but He never changes His form, for He is in the form of His Father, as Jesus was. And He has the right and privilege to commune with men.

Jesus Christ spoke of this companionship as a gift that the world could not enjoy. The preparation for the reception of Him is preceded by the cleansing process known as baptism, that follows genuine repentance; for He will not dwell in an unholy

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THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1933

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EDITORIAL

WORD OF APPRECIATION FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

To all missionaries who are in the field, those who have rendered missionary service, and those who are yet to go upon missions :

Christ our Lord called His twelve disciples together and sent them out to preach the Gospel. And He said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece."

He also appointed other seventy, and sent them out two and two, and said to them: "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves."

Just prior to His crucifixion, Jesus declared the destruction of the temple at Jerusalem, and the judgments which would come to the Israelitish people.

As He sat upon the Mount of Olives, His disciples asked Him when the predictions made would be fulfilled, and particularly, what was to be the sign of His coming again to earth, to redeem His people.

Among other signs by which they were to be made aware of the near approach of His coming, He said: "And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

Following the example of the Master, and in fulfillment of His predictions, the missionary system adopted by Him has been in operation in the Church since the period of the Restoration.

It is estimated that more than sixty thousand members of the Church have served in the mission field since its organization. In one respect we have deviated from the custom of the primitive Church greatly to our advantage, we have included women as well as men in our missionary system.

These representatives of the Church, composed in great part of young men and young women, have gone out into the world with the same faith and courage exemplified by the disciples of our Lord. They have manifested the same fortitude and courage, have met the same opposition from the enemy of truth, and in some instances have given their lives, martyrs for the cause which they represent.

The Lord has gone before them and been their reward. The signs promised have followed them in their ministry. They have carried the glad tidings of the Restoration to many homes where



hearts which were in hopeless despair have been made happy because of the message which they brought.

From our hearts we praise and bless them for the faithful service rendered, and pray that the protecting hand of Almighty God may be over them, both men and women, those who have served, those who are now in the field, and those who may follow after.

Your brethren and fellow-workers in the Master's service,

HEBER J. GRANT

ANTHONY W. IVINS

J. REUBEN CLARK, JR.

## A NEW PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN MISSION

ELDER JOSEPH F. MERRILL of the Council of the Twelve has been appointed to succeed Elder John A. Widtsoe as President of the European Mission. The probable date of Elder Merrill's arrival is as yet unknown.

## PIONEERS

EVER since Father Adam was driven out of the bounteous Garden of Eden into the trackless, unfriendly wilderness to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow, there have been pioneers. And, until this earth upon which we live has fulfilled, to the very last, the measure of its existence, there will be pioneers, for the spirit of pioneering is an essential part of the great royal principle of eternal progress. Though men may remain much the same from generation to generation, conditions of life change perceptibly with the decades—change greatly with the centuries, bringing always new problems to be solved, new fields of thought and action to be explored, new-old truths to be applied. Pioneering, if it is to be uplifting and of everlasting value, if it is to open the way to new, fertile valleys of achievement, must have as its foundation principles of truth. True, a pioneer is one who goes before to remove obstacles, to blaze trails, to prepare the way for those who follow after; but, unless he goes armed with the keen blade of truth, unless the foundation he lays is built upon the rock of absolute reality, those who follow him are guided into error.

We do honour to the great Pioneers of the past who have courageously opened the way into new realms of human happiness and understanding. We try always to show our appreciation of their leadership and of their sacrifices in our behalf. But, fundamentally, and above all, we respect them for the principles that inspired them to press onward, for the truths that they brought to light, for the factors upon which they built success. Such is our admiration for the great pioneer, Joseph Smith. With truth as his sole weapon, he fearlessly faced a wilderness of error, and blazed through it a trail to a new era of religious freedom and understanding. His project could not fail because it

found its motivating power in the application of Divine Law. His followers were drawn to his cause by the irresistible attraction of truth and held together by the unbreakable bonds of that inner knowledge which comes from obedient communion with the Divine Will. On the firm foundation laid by Pioneer Joseph Smith, Pioneer Brigham Young built a mighty community, a monument, indeed, to the power of truth. This community, with true pioneering spirit, overcame physical hardship, the unfriendliness of a barren land, and the enmity of a hostile people, because its purpose was one of righteousness, based on truth.

It was that same true spirit of pioneering that caused Heber C. Kimball, in his impatience to set foot on the shore of truth-hungry England, to leap the last intervening stretch of water between boat and land, as the boat conveying him and his company to the shore, neared the pier. It was the true spirit of pioneering that caused the first two candidates for baptism in England to engage in a foot race to the River Ribble, near Preston, each hoping to be the first to espouse such a glorious cause. It is upon this spirit to-day—the fervent desire to go forward to greater accomplishment tempered by the requirement that the cause must be right and true—that the fulfillment of our individual responsibilities in this great Gospel work depends.

Perhaps we have not the same barriers to overcome, perhaps we are not confronted by the same pioneering problems that faced Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and Heber C. Kimball. Conditions have changed. But the need for pioneering remains. Our field of conquest lies large before us. There are thousands who have yet to hear the Gospel message. There are still those who are groping for truth. Many are the new applications of Gospel principles to be made that will enrich our lives and the lives of others. There is much yet to be accomplished, pioneering work for all of us to do, and our possibilities of victory are just as great as were the possibilities of the pioneers of old, for, though frontiers have changed, we have ever the assurance in facing new conditions that the pioneering power of eternal truth remains infallible.

The days of late July are significant days in the history of the Church, for they are the days that we of the Church always associate with Pioneers. It was in July, 1837, that missionaries, bearing the precious Gospel truths, first set foot on British soil. It was on the thirtieth day of July, ten days later, that the first converts in England were baptised into the Church. It was on the twenty-fourth of July, 1847, that the early saints pushed their way into Salt Lake valley—and, to them, Zion. Let us observe the anniversaries of these memorable events. Let us honour the memories of the men and women who had such vision, and the courage of their convictions to make that vision come true. But above all, let us honour the truths of the great Gospel cause that were their unfailing inspiration!—RICHARD S. BENNETT.

## A NEW MISSION PRESIDENT

ANNOUNCEMENT has come from the First Presidency of the honourable release of President Hyrum D. Jensen of the Norwegian Mission. He will be succeeded by Elder Milton H. Knudson.

President Jensen served first as a missionary in Norway in 1895. He returned again in 1911 to fill another mission term, and early in 1929, was called to preside over the Norwegian Mission, serving in that capacity until his recent release. Under his able and active leadership, the Church has made outstanding progress in Norway. His organizing genius, coupled with his understanding of the people and conditions in Norway have been of great value to the mission.

Elder Knudson, who succeeds President Jensen, is well known in Church and educational circles in Utah. He has fulfilled one mission in Norway, and for many years past has been the president of Snow College, a church school at Ephraim, Utah. Elder Knudson will leave for Norway early in August.

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## THE HOLY GHOST

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tabernacle. Therefore this preparation is essential, and then the union of the soul baptized, with this broadcasting agency of heaven is effected by the laying on of hands by one holding divine authority; and the welding link of that soul with this agency is established. He speaks not of Himself, but He becomes the agent of the Father and the Son.

It was said that whosoever sinned against Him should not have forgiveness of sins in this world nor in the world to come. The reason is that He has been given the privilege to make known the truth to these baptized, converted souls, so that they know it better than they shall ever know it by any other means; and whoever sins against the knowledge that He gives to them, sins against the greatest light there is, and has consequently committed the greatest sin.

It is one thing to have the right of communing with Him, and it is another thing to really enjoy the privilege. In order that one shall have access to the central broadcasting station in our radio system, two things are essential. We must be in tune, and we must have sufficient power to pick up the message. It is essential that whosoever has the right to the Holy Ghost must be in tune with this broadcasting agency of heaven. How do men get out of tune? By committing sin. They go into the dark. For He is the most sensitive spirit I know anything about, and He will not go in many places where we go. Neither will He dwell in an unholy tabernacle. Once each Sabbath day we come to the Lord's Sacrament table, where we are called upon to put ourselves in tune. If we have sinned against our neighbour, we are to seek forgiveness. If we have sinned against the Lord, we must make our peace with Him. And when brought in tune, then we charge our souls spiritually by eating and drinking the emblems of the broken body and the spilled blood of the Lord.

I said the two things that were essential are to be in tune and then have spiritual power. Spiritual power may come from eating and drinking worthily these emblems : it comes from seeking the Lord in secret and in the family circle. When we close out the physical world, we open our spiritual eyes and reach out toward that source of spiritual power. Whoever neglects this exercise will presently become a spiritual weakling, and spiritual exercise is provided for every member of the Church. You teachers in the Sunday School have it when you go on the Sabbath day to minister to the souls of men. Branch teachers enjoy that exercise as they go from door to door. You teachers in each of the organizations, indeed all those who labour for the salvation of the souls of men, are taking on spiritual exercises, and if one keeps in tune and has developed sufficient spirituality to pick up these messages, it is possible to carry on a relationship with this divine intelligence God has provided for the direction of obedient human souls.

#### THE KEY TO DIVINE DIRECTION

The method of communication is one that Latter-day Saints, I am sure, quite well understand. A key is given in the ninth section of the book of Doctrine and Covenants, wherein Oliver Cowdery, translating the Book of Mormon, came to a time when all was darkness and there was no light. He asked, "Why is it?" The answer: "You took no thought, my son, save it was to ask me. Behold, you must study it out in your own mind (and reach your own conclusion), and then come and ask me if it is right. And if it is right, I shall cause your bosom to burn within you, and you shall know that it is right. But if it is not right, you shall have no such feeling, but you shall have a stupor of thought."

What is your problem, young lady? The proposal that has been made to you in marriage, you do not know whether you should accept or not. You should study it out, and study it out with the best wisdom you can bring to bear on the subject, with your parents. You have reached your conclusion, and yet you do not know whether you are right. Take your conclusion to the Lord. Ask Him if the thing you have decided to do is right. My brother on the farm, you do not know whether to buy or sell. But you can study it out, and reach a conclusion, and then bring it to the Lord. He does not promise you a dream, or a vision, or the visitation of an angel. But He has assured you that if you come with sincere purpose and ask Him, if the thing be right your bosom shall burn within you, by the witness of this Spirit, and you shall know that it is right. And if it is not right, you shall have no such feeling; you shall have a stupor of thought, and your heart shall be turned away from that thing.

This generation needs guidance in spiritual, as well as in material things, as it needs nothing else in the world. In one of the revelations the Lord said, "That which the spirit testifies unto you, even so I would that ye should do in all holiness of heart." Thank God for a gift that we may retain forever; a gift that will reveal to us the path that leads to happiness in time and eternity, a gift that will detect error, a companionship that brings us wisdom and knowledge to grasp and comprehend the



things of God. It is the most precious of man's possessions while he dwells in mortality. Let us stir up that gift that it may be profitable to us in the solution of the problems of to-day, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.—(Address delivered at the Conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union, April 9th, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.)

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## A MIRACULOUS DELIVERANCE

LATTER-DAY SAINTS were miraculously protected and spared from death and destruction in the recent earthquake that struck the Los Angeles area, it was reported by A. M. Steed, stake genealogical representative of Los Angeles stake, during his visit in Salt Lake for the April conference. His residence is at Compton, California.

Elder Steed reported a number of cases in which he said that the saints were definitely spared, while those around them suffered losses.

He called attention to a promise made at the Los Angeles stake conference by President Rudger Clawson, of the Council of the Twelve Apostles, in speaking during one of the services in Los Angeles. The promise was that the Lord would preserve and protect His people who serve Him and keep His commandments. He told the saints that the Lord had a big work for His people to do in that state, and would divert anything that might destroy them.

Relating his own experiences in the quake itself, Elder Steed said that on the afternoon of the Friday on which the disaster occurred, he was in the office of Dr. Lynn, in the Stockwell building. Hardly had he begun his consultation with the doctor, when the physician was suddenly called out on an emergency case, and Elder Steed, making his appointment for another day, left the building, which was just a short time later badly damaged by the quake.

Elder Steed then went to his home, and, taking his automobile and his three children, he returned down town to make some purchases. He said that when he reached town, he was strongly impressed to return home quickly. He had been unable to find a parking place in the vicinity of the store at which he was to make his purchases. When the impression came to him to go home, he felt that that would be a queer thing to do, when he had come especially to buy the articles which he needed. He drove along a little further, and found a parking place. He was just about to turn into the curb, when, he said, unseen hands stronger than his, turned the machine out into the middle of the street, and again he felt this strong impression—go home quickly! He obeyed the impression and began immediately to drive home. Hardly had he started for home, when the sharp quake came.

Elder Steed said that his car swayed violently, the children cried out in fear, and it seemed as though all four tyres on the machine were punctured. All about him buildings were falling. He saw masonry fall upon parked automobiles, crushing them to the ground, and killing their occupants. He said he heard the shrieks of the frightened populace, and heard men curse God

and soon die. His car was untouched and none of its occupants was injured.

He said that the place where he would have parked his car, in front of the Stockwell building, was now nothing but wreckage. Bricks and timber had fallen upon the cars, taking a heavy toll of death. Twenty-three persons died there.

He drove rapidly to his home, and found the neighbourhood in ruins. Large buildings and small ones alike were wrecked. A large garage directly across the street from his own home was demolished. There were few sound buildings remaining in the entire district. His home was in no way damaged by the quake, which had levelled stronger and newer structures. Not even his brick chimney was marred, and his brick fireplace stood undamaged.

Within 35 minutes of the first quake, five families in the immediate vicinity of Elder Steed's home came to his residence, where all felt safe. There those families spent the night. No harm came to them.

In a survey of the damage to Latter-day Saint property, especially chapels and meeting houses, Elder Steed said that those buildings escaped miraculously, while two large cathedrals, each costing £250,000, were destroyed by the quake. The Latter-day Saints' chapel in Long Beach escaped with but a few slight cracks and some plaster falling to the floor. In fact, he said that total damage to all Latter-day Saint chapels in the quake area would not surpass £250, so remarkably were they spared, while countless buildings all about them fell with the disturbance.

He repeated further that there was only one Latter-day Saint killed in the quake, and, strangely enough, this person left behind her a testimony that she had been forewarned, but failed to heed the warning.

She was walking down to a store with another woman when she felt strangely impressed not to enter the store into which they were going. The other woman said, "Well, don't go then. If I felt that way, I certainly wouldn't enter it."

But she replied that she needed some goods, and would hurry into the store. She had scarcely entered, when the quake came, killing her with other persons.—(*Deseret News*, April 15th, 1933.)

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## A MISSIONARY HOLIDAY

"THE world is too much with us; late and soon,  
Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers; . . ."

Thus mused William Wordsworth as he silently looked across the placid waters of Windermere and Grasmere, a hurrying world rushing by behind his back. Several "Mormon" missionaries caught that same inspiration on the shores of Windermere while awaiting the dawn of a glorious Fourth of July.

Honouring Independence Day, the missionaries of Hull, Sheffield, Leeds, Nottingham, Manchester, Newcastle and Liverpool districts gathered near Lake Windermere. On the previous evening several of the districts had jointly conducted a street meeting in Kendal. For two hours testimony and song rang out

across the public square to the interest of onlookers and the joy of Elders.

Sleep does not come easily nor stay long where men stretch out on rough ground, the heavens their only cover. And so, at dawn the caravan was encircling Windermere.

What a picture! A smooth, glistening pearl set in the quiet of rolling green and wooded hills, the sun of a new day streaking across the waters.

Then a ten-mile cruise over the lake to glimpse the scattered sleeping towns about. Of special interest was the fatal route where Major Seagrave lost his life while setting the world's speed boat record.

Breakfast over, those who cared to, played tennis while the others of the party rolled over the hills past Rydal Water, Lake Grasmere and Wordsworth's cottage, and on up to Keswick.

Then baseball, the grand old American game. What a thrill to play it again! Of course, the English crowd did not comprehend our strange game completely, but they laughed and cheered. What else mattered?

Fourth of July! What a day! Mountains—baseball—friends—memories and fun.

ELDER GORDON B. HINCKLEY

## CHURCH WIDE NEWS

UNUSUALLY large attendances marked the sessions of the annual June Conference of the M. I. A. and the Primary Association held in the Tabernacle at Salt Lake City, Utah, June 9th to 11th. Members of the two Associations from all over the Church met to hear plans for the coming year's activities discussed. The opening session of the conference was addressed by President Heber J. Grant, who urged upon the officers and teachers of the organizations the importance of their responsibility toward the youth of the Church. Elder Richard R. Lyman, Assistant General Superintendent of the M. I. A., presented to the conference the new M. I. A. slogan for 1933: "Inspired by the refining influence of 'Mormonism' we will develop the gifts within us." The slogan formed the topic for discussion in the departmental meetings of the sessions that followed. A conjoint Sunday meeting, under the direction of the First Presidency, concluded the conference.

PROVIDING a parallel to the General M. I. A. Conference at Salt Lake City, the Mutual Improvement Association of the Netherlands Mission held its annual June Conference at Rotterdam from June 1st to June 5th. The conference, under the direction of Mission President Frank I. Kooyman, and conducted by the officers of the Y. L. M. I. A. and Y. M. M. I. A., was well planned and efficiently managed. Contest work, competition in the fields of debating, extemporaneous public speaking, music, dancing, and retold story proved to be the feature of the session. M. I. A. work is progressing splendidly in the Netherlands Mission. The Y. L. M. I. A. is officered entirely by local members, and though the Y. M. M. I. A. is at present presided over by missionaries, local members are preparing to take over its administration also. Special visitors to the conference included President and Sister Golden L. Woolf of the French Mission; Ileen Ann Waspe and Nettie Woodbury, supervisors of the Mutual and Primary work of the European Missions, and Elder Louis G. Robinson, supervisor of the Y. M. M. I. A. of the British Mission.

## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Arrival:** Elder Grant Kirkham, of New York City, arrived in London, July 12th, and was assigned to Hull District to begin his missionary labours.

**Transfer:** Elder Harvey F. Freestone was transferred from the Hull to the Liverpool District, July 12th.

**Doings in the Districts:** *Leeds*—The Mutual Improvement Associations of the District held their annual District Festival at Bradford on July 1st, 1933. In the afternoon and evening, formal programmes of retold stories, poems, readings, community singing, debating, and games were conducted. Approximately seventy-five members and investigators participated in the activities of the day.

### PIONEERS

THEY'RE the "utterly foolish dreamers,"  
 Who dream of a better day ;  
 They're not the plotters and schemers  
 Who work for glory and pay,  
 But with confidence undiminished  
 They dream of a world made new,  
 And after their days are finished  
 The wonderful dream comes true.

They're the fighters who fight undaunted  
 For the utterly hopeless cause,  
 Ridiculed, jeered and taunted,  
 With never a lull or pause ;  
 But after they've fought and perished,  
 And after their work is done,  
 The cause they have loved and cherished  
 Is lifted to fame—and won.

They know the hope and the yearning,  
 The sting of the blind world's scorn,  
 But never the sunshine burning,  
 The skies of their visioned morn ;  
 They're the warriors fine and splendid,  
 The fond and the faithful few,  
 Who battles and work are ended,  
 Or ever the dreams comes true !

—BERTON BRALEY

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PUBLISHER: JAMES H. DOUGLAS, 43 TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON, W.C. 1

EDITOR: JOHN A. WIDTSOE, 5 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON, W.C. 1